

# RVGS Newsletter

May 2022



## Counselor's Corner

Congratulations on completing 2021-2022! Summer is a time for reconnecting with family and friends and for rest, relaxation, and recreation. I urge you all to enjoy this time and allow yourself the opportunity for rejuvenation. That being said, remember that many courses have a summer assignment. I encourage you to not wait until the last minute to begin working on them. This will just cause stress and fatigue as you start your new school year. Instead, manage your time wisely and complete the work after a short break rather than putting it off to the end.

I will continue to be in the office through June 17th and will return on July 25th. If you need me during that gap of time, I will still periodically check my email, or you can reach out to Mr. Levy. See you in August!

*-Kathy Sebolt*

## International Science and Engineering Fair

For the first time since 2019, ISEF finalists were able to compete in person. More than half of the finalists gathered in Atlanta, GA at the Georgia World Congress Center and the remaining finalists participated virtually. Due to their Grand Prize Awards at the Western Virginia Regional Science Fair, RVGS had 3 students qualify to attend ISEF. Rebecca Qiu (RVGS/WB), Caroline Grant (RVGS/HV) and Abhi Karri (RVGS/HV) were selected to advance and present their projects at ISEF. The students, along with Andrew Hurst and Melissa Fisher as chaperones, travelled to Atlanta from May 7-13 for a very busy week.



On Sunday, the students participate in one of the highlights of the fair, the pin exchange. Each group that attends ISEF brings a pin with them that represents their fair that sent them. Our pins had the Roanoke Star on them. The students were able to exchange pins with students around the world. Monday was spent setting up the projects and attending Opening Ceremonies. Every country participating had their name called and those students waved the flag of their country. Tuesday was Judging day. That evening, there was a special mixer for students to help relieve the stress of the day. Wednesday was spent listening to esteemed scientists including Nobel Laureates. Students visited the Atlanta Zoo and Aquarium that evening for a private and special experience. On Thursday, students participated in category networking sessions followed by special awards ceremony. Finally, Friday was the Grand Awards ceremony and time to head home. The students and chaperones had a wonderful and busy week. They felt fortunate to be able to attend in person and meet inspiring student scientist from around the world. It was a week they will never forget.

## Message from the Director

As we reach the end of another school year impacted by the pandemic, I am heartened at the enriching environment we've been able to provide to our students at RVGS. I want to express my deep and genuine appreciation to the students, families, and teachers of the RVGS community for your patience and collaboration during these challenges. I especially applaud our students for their continued perseverance and dedication to their learning.

As we head into the summer, I want to give a particular farewell to our class of 2022. They have been a special group whose comradery and mutual support will stand out to me for years into the future. You will be missed.

I hope each of you have a safe and restful summer. If you need any assistance over the summer, don't hesitate to call or email.

## Spring Ultimate Frisbee Tournament

The much-anticipated Spring season kicked off with 9 teams representing all grades and home schools. Teams arrived ready for competition with some even arriving with coaching staff. Fan bases added to the excitement and energy level for the early morning games. After a week of intense competition, the championship was held between “Bee Gees” and “Mommy Lab Rats”. The Bee Gees were able to repeat their Fall success and be named as Champions of the Spring Ultimate Frisbee season. Both teams in the championship were treated to a pancake breakfast courtesy of Mrs. Sebolt. Entry fees from the tournament were used to fund Senior activities and pins.



## Senior Sunset

As the Seniors began their year with a Senior Sunrise, it was only fitting to end the year with a Senior Sunset. Students and faculty gathered on the Ultimate Frisbee field for an evening of fun and treats. Students brought blankets and lawn chairs to enjoy the beautiful



sunset in between breaks for smores, corn hole and chalk art. It was a beautiful evening to enjoy some final moments with friends and remember their journey of the last few years at Governor's school.



# Senior Dinner



On May 9th, the senior class, their families, the Governor's School's faculty, and RVGS Board and Foundation members all came together at Hotel Roanoke to celebrate our graduates. This year, it was extra special as it was the first time in 2 years that our Seniors were able to celebrate a Senior dinner in-person. After opening remarks and an introduction by Mr. Levy, Mr. Browning took the stage to deliver the Keynote speech to the students. He gave an outstanding speech that highlight his own path to being true to one's self. He encouraged the students to not hide behind a "fake identity" when making new friends. He hoped that they would allow their true selves to shine through. Cynthia Lin and Lily Dorothy followed speak on behalf of the student body. They spoke fondly about their time at Governor's School. They especially appreciated the support of their fellow students and the faculty. The students selected Senior Superlatives were next announced and included "Most Athletic", "Class Clown" and "Most Likely to Survive a Zombie Apocalypse" to name a few. Then it was time for the much-anticipated Senior Faculty Roast where students highlighted each teacher's personality and quirks, real or perceived. Special Senior awards were announced. Faculty Awards were given to: Gracie Kahoun, Emma Thieleck, Natalie Saville, Maddie Brown and Dhruvi Patel. Cynthia Lin received the Alfred D. Blease Memorial Student Leadership & Service Award. Finally, students received their senior pins while their self-submitted proudest accomplishments were read by Mr. Taylor. A wonderful night was had by all, and we were so grateful to celebrate our Seniors in style!



## 2022 SENIOR CLASS SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

The 74 graduating Seniors of the RVGS class of 2022 certainly had a year to remember. Members of the RVGS class of 2022 are attending 24 different colleges, from as close as Virginia Western (3 miles) to as far off as University of Hawaii (4,693 miles). The most popular destinations this year are Virginia Tech (14 students) and the University of Virginia (18 students).

Other state schools such as William and Mary, James Madison and VCU were also highly represented. The class of 2022 were cumulatively offered over \$5 million in scholarships. We will miss these amazing students next year. Be sure to come back to visit and share all of your exciting plans. And remember, it's not goodbye just see you later!



# Congratulations Class of 2022!



<b>Ann Foust Bailey</b>	<i>Wake Forest</i>	<b>Micah Keyser-Roth</b>	<i>Virginia Western</i>
<b>Ford Beasley</b>	<i>University of Virginia</i>	<b>Cole Konstance</b>	<i>University of Virginia</i>
<b>Madison Brown</b>	<i>Yale University</i>	<b>Margaret Laflam</b>	<i>University of Virginia</i>
<b>Ella Bryan</b>	<i>William and Mary</i>	<b>Cynthia Lin</b>	<i>VCU</i>
<b>Alicia Carvalho</b>	<i>University of Virginia</i>	<b>Alexander Martin</b>	<i>UVA-Wise</i>
<b>Catherine Chen</b>	<i>Virginia Tech</i>	<b>Liam May</b>	<i>Virginia Tech</i>
<b>Shane Cockram</b>	<i>Virginia Western</i>	<b>Riley McReynolds</b>	<i>Virginia Tech</i>
<b>Ryan Chase Cooper</b>	<i>Virginia Tech</i>	<b>Charles Meidlinger</b>	<i>New York University</i>
<b>Katie Cross</b>	<i>Clemson University</i>	<b>Mihir Miller</b>	<i>Maryland College Park</i>
<b>Katelyn Crumpacker</b>	<i>Virginia Tech</i>	<b>Declan Morrill</b>	<i>University of Virginia</i>
<b>David Chase Cumins</b>	<i>University of Virginia</i>	<b>Paige Netting</b>	<i>Virginia Tech</i>
<b>Haley Day</b>	<i>University of Virginia</i>	<b>Lacey Ngo</b>	<i>Virginia Tech</i>
<b>Bakari Deskins</b>	<i>Virginia Western</i>	<b>Vy Nguyen</b>	<i>VCU</i>
<b>Reesa Devers</b>	<i>Wake Forest</i>	<b>Christina Okenquist</b>	<i>University of Virginia</i>
<b>Lily Dorathy</b>	<i>University of Virginia</i>	<b>Dhruvi Patel</b>	<i>University of Virginia</i>
<b>Claire Dozier</b>	<i>University of Virginia</i>	<b>Savannah Peters</b>	<i>Virginia Tech</i>
<b>Sara Drewry</b>	<i>James Madison</i>	<b>Tai Phan</b>	<i>Virginia Tech</i>
<b>Sydnee Durham</b>	<i>University of Georgia</i>	<b>Olivia Reichardt</b>	<i>Virginia Tech</i>
<b>Jack Ericsson</b>	<i>VMI</i>	<b>Reese Robers</b>	<i>University of Virginia</i>
<b>Taylor Frazier</b>	<i>Vassar College</i>	<b>Joshua Ruppel</b>	<i>George Mason</i>
<b>Anna Frittman</b>	<i>Virginia Tech</i>	<b>Andrew Sakamoto</b>	<i>University of Hawaii-Manoa</i>
<b>Caroline Grant</b>	<i>University of Virginia</i>	<b>Natalie Saville</b>	<i>William and Mary</i>
<b>Andrew Harmon</b>	<i>University of Virginia</i>	<b>Matthew Scarlatescu</b>	<i>University of Virginia</i>
<b>Andres Hernandez</b>	<i>VMI</i>	<b>Erica-Blake Sellars</b>	<i>University of South Carolina</i>
<b>Clara Higgins</b>	<i>Virginia Tech</i>	<b>Sarah Grace Stanley</b>	<i>Presbyterian College</i>
<b>Holly Hinchy</b>	<i>Virginia Western</i>	<b>William Stevens</b>	<i>University of Virginia</i>
<b>Abby Hunter</b>	<i>William and Mary</i>	<b>Ethan Su</b>	<i>Georgia Tech</i>
<b>Ruby Isbell</b>	<i>William and Mary</i>	<b>Toby Tate</b>	<i>University of Richmond</i>
<b>Merryn Isbell</b>	<i>VCU</i>	<b>Emma Thielecke</b>	<i>Clemson University</i>
<b>Libby Jamison</b>	<i>VCU</i>	<b>Riley Van Aken</b>	<i>Georgia Tech</i>
<b>Gracie Kahoun</b>	<i>University of Pittsburgh</i>	<b>Raghav Vasudeva</b>	<i>New York University</i>
<b>Abhinav Karr</b>	<i>University of Virginia</i>	<b>James Voight</b>	<i>Liberty University</i>
<b>Griffin Kauffman</b>	<i>Georgia Institute Technology</i>	<b>Sydney Vokus</b>	<i>Virginia Tech</i>
<b>Vineel Kavuru</b>	<i>University of Virginia</i>	<b>Silvia Wardell</b>	<i>University of Virginia</i>
<b>Spencer Kearns</b>	<i>Virginia Tech</i>	<b>Riley Wood</b>	<i>Virginia Tech</i>
<b>Garrett Kelly</b>	<i>VCU</i>	<b>Abby Wyatt</b>	<i>William and Mary</i>
<b>Riley Kerr</b>	<i>VCU</i>	<b>Michelle Zheng</b>	<i>UCLA</i>